

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 have been examined. With this amendment, Applicants add claims 18-23.

Claims 1-23 are all the claims pending in the application.

1. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by AAPA. For at least the following reason, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites an apparatus for recording a two-dimensional image that comprises a "means for recording an image...in at least one of an accelerating period...and a decelerating period." The Examiner alleges that the start of the exposure process by starting the drum in step S2A in Figure 22 corresponds to this feature.

Applicants submit that Figure 22 clearly shows that the recording of the image itself (step S2F- EXPOSE PRINTING PLATE) is only done when the rotation of the drum is stable (i.e., constant speed). Therefore, the AAPA does not disclose or even remotely suggest "recording an image" while in an acceleration period or a deceleration period of the drum as set forth in the claimed combination.

Because independent claims 11 and 14 recite similar features as claim 1, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable for at least the reason given above.

Because claims 9, 12, and 17 depend on independent claims 1, 11, and 14 respectively, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

2. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 10 and 13 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Johnson et al. (US 5,889,534) ["Johnson"]. Applicants traverse the rejection.

Because claims 10 and 13 depend on independent claims 1 and 13 respectively, and Johnson does not cure the deficient teaching of AAPA with respect to claims 1 and 11, Applicants submit that claims 10 and 13 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

3. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for finding that claims 2-8 are allowable over the prior art.

Applicants thank the Examiner for finding allowable subject matter in claims 15 and 16 and indicating that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants hold rewriting claims 15 and 16 in abeyance until the matter regarding their base claim is resolved.

In the reasons for allowance of claims 2-8, the Examiner only cites some features found in independent claim 2. Applicants submit that claims 2-8 are allowable by virtue of the features recited therein.

4. New Claims

With this amendment, Applicants add claims 18 to 23. Applicants submit that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies, as well as the features set forth therein.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No.: 10/046,078

Attorney Docket No.: Q67364

5. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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